

COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Plainville MA, June 16, 2009

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☐ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☒ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☒ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: _____

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

Why not run most of the lines down Hwy 52 to Rochester?

Why are 345/161 combo lines being funneled through a narrow densely populated area around Orangetown Co 12 area when there is a straighter route that is less densely populated to the North?

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

I-028-001

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-028-002

Your comment has been noted. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-028-001

I-028-002

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

- ☒ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☒ Other: *run off pond & dam* ^{earthen}

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

Section 10 Oranoro Township (see attached map) Most of my property is a valley area that slopes down to the Zumbro River. The valley is an area that funnels run off from a large watershed area into the Zumbro. An earthen dam was built over 25 yrs ago to control erosion, run-off and silt going into the Zumbro. Behind the dam is a stormwater retention pond that is full most of the year. I believe it was constructed by the Olmsted County Soil and Water Conservation District.

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

This run off pond is a nesting area for ducks and is used by area wildlife as a water source. The wide valley going down to the Zumbro is frequented by turkeys, raptors, pheasants, deer. There are eagles nesting on the cliffs by the Zumbro and they use the open valley and prevailing winds as a fly way.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-028-003

Yes, it was. It's just that the info changes etc. keep changing and ~~it is not~~ the changes over time are not always communicated in a timely manner.

I-028-004

X Avoid B102 because ^{under it is} ~~it is~~ a major run-off drainage area with extremely deep ditches. The drainage is directly under the route.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Penny E. Robinson

Representing (Optional):

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Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-028-003

Your comment has been noted. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities are striving to provide the most up to date information in a timely manner. Project information is updated regularly on the project website, www.capx2020.com.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-028-004

Your comment has been noted. Access and terrain issues will be assessed at a route level and with individual landowners. Alternatives to the project will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.



